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SEVENTH YEAR

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W. R. NELSON, EDITOR OF THE STAR, DIES

Noted Kansas City Publisher
Had Been Ill Since
December.

WAS 74 YEARS OLD

Founded His Great Paper in
1880—Was Its Sole
Owner.

By United Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo., April 13.—William Rockhill Nelson, editor and owner of the Kansas City Star, died at his home, Oak Hall, at 2 o'clock this morning. Mr. Nelson had suffered a long illness and had been confined to his bed since December. Recently his condition had improved and his physicians thought there was some hope of recovery.

Mr. Nelson was born at Fort Wayne, Ind., March 7, 1841. His father was Isaac DeGroff Nelson. Mr. Nelson was educated at Notre Dame University and in 1911 was granted the honorary degree of LL. D. by his alma mater. He was admitted to the bar when 19 years old. Later he engaged in the contracting and building business. He had accumulated \$200,000 when he was 35 years old. This later was wiped out by reverses. All that was left to Mr. Nelson at this time was an interest in the Sentinel of Fort Wayne. This interest he sold in 1880 and then he moved to Kansas City. In this same year, he founded The Kansas City Star, of which he was the sole owner and editor since two years after its beginning.

Innovations in Journalism.

At least three extraordinary innovations in journalism were planned and successfully executed by Mr. Nelson, a full week's issue, seven days, sold and delivered for ten cents (1894); a weekly newspaper with a subscription price of twenty-five cents a year (1890); evening, morning and Sunday issues, thirteen papers a week, sold and delivered, for ten cents a week.

Mr. Nelson was of stocky physique. His head was large and massive, crowned with plentiful hair, snow-white in recent years. He bore a resemblance to Henry Ward Beecher. In movements, he was quick and vigorous, mentally keen, quick to comprehend and assimilate ideas; swift in analysis and opinions; strongly imaginative, but along definite and practical lines. He had the mind of a builder; was quick to conceive, confident in his judgment, impatient for progress, but willing to wait for fulfillment, and disinclined to the haste that might sacrifice ultimate perfection of his plans.

Completed things lost interest in his constructive mind. Mr. Nelson might be pleased with his newspaper; he was never satisfied with it.

Cared Little for Precedent.

Self-reliant to an extreme, he was intolerant of restrictive or retarding suggestions involving abandonment or curtailment of his plans. Yet he was eager for suggestions containing ideas which amplified or even modified his projects, so long as the ideas were constructive. He cared little for precedent. Mr. Nelson's purposes often were amazingly original in conception, yet he had no sympathy for any scheme that was merely brilliant or temporary. Everything his judgment accepted had to have promise of permanent and practical results. There was a wholesome resiliency which caused him to regard defeat or disappointment as the inspiration for renewed effort.

The political independence of The Star has not been a mere name. Originally a Democrat, Mr. Nelson abandoned allegiance to all parties when the Democratic party failed to renominate Samuel Tilden for president in 1880. Mr. Nelson had been Tilden's personal manager in Indiana in his campaign of 1876.

Beginning with only a few thousand dollars when he founded The Star in 1880, Mr. Nelson accumulated a vast fortune from his paper. The Star often has been said by some newspaper men throughout the United States as one of the three best newspapers in this country. Charles H. Grasty, formerly editor and publisher of the Baltimore Sun, in June 1909, wrote a long magazine article in which he said the Kansas City Star is the best paper in the United States.

To Discuss Year's "Best Sellers."

The Columbia Library Club will meet in the Agricultural library, Saturday night. The program will consist in talks on the "six best sellers" of 1914.

DEMOCRACY'S IDOL

Thomas Jefferson, third president of the United States and most conspicuous apostle of democracy in America, was born April 13, 1743, at Shadwell, Albemarle County, Virginia. His life was the life of an almost perfect citizen.

Jefferson was educated at the college of William and Mary at Williamsburg and remained an ardent student throughout his life. Soon after leaving college he entered Wythe's law office and in 1767 was admitted to the bar.

Public service was the very essence of Jefferson's life. For forty years he toiled in his country's behalf. His importance as a maker of modern America can scarcely be overstated, for the ideas that he advocated have become the very foundations of American republicanism.

A Career of Public Service.

Jefferson began his career in public service as a justice of peace and parish vestryman. He served as minister to France, secretary of state, vice-president and as president for two terms. Even after his retirement Madison and Monroe, his immediate successors, consulted him frequently.

His last years were devoted to the establishment of the University of Virginia, at Charlottesville, near his home. Jefferson is called the "father of the state university" and practically all the great ideas of aim, administration and curriculum that dominated American universities at the end of the nineteenth century were anticipated by him in the ideas that he instigated at the University of Virginia.

Jefferson the man was no less worthy than Jefferson the statesman. His kindness of heart rose above all social, religious or political difference and nothing destroyed his confidence in men and his sanguine views of life. He had a quick eye for character, was genuinely amiable, tactful, masterful and shrewd.

He died July 4, 1826, on the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, and as the epitaph on his tombstone he chose the following: "Here was buried Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of American Independence, of the statute of Virginia for religious freedom, and father of the University of Virginia."

Original Monument Stands Here.

The original monument designed by Thomas Jefferson and erected over his grave at Monticello, now stands upon the campus of the University of Missouri at Columbia. It is a simple obelisk of granite, eight and one-half feet in height and without the slightest attempt at adornment.

Two miles from the spot where Thomas Jefferson was born, near the junction of the Rivanna and James rivers, in Albemarle county, Virginia, on the lands which he inherited from



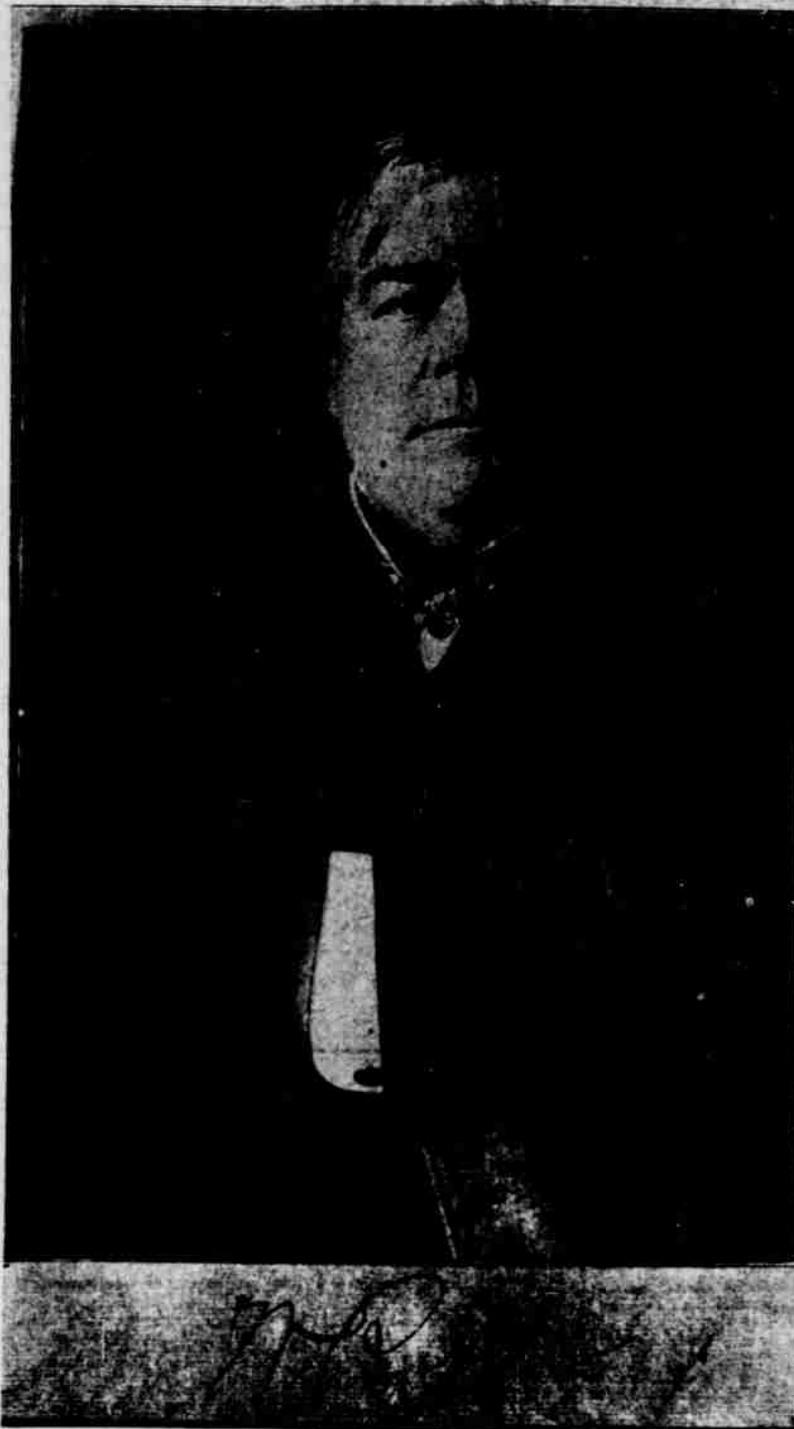
Jefferson Monument on the Campus.

his father, rises Monticello or "The Little Mount," 505 feet high, the home for more than sixty years and the final resting-place of the patriot and statesman. During the long summer days of the year 1765, on a rustic bench near its summit, beneath the branches of a majestic oak, could be seen two young men, in the early bloom of manhood, students of the law and devoted friends. The one was Thomas Jefferson and the other Dabney Carr.

Senator Vest thus described the scene: "Lifting their eyes from the pages of Coke or Littleton, they rest-

(Continued to page three)

Late Editor and Owner of K. C. Star.



Colonel William R. Nelson

GERMAN OFFENSIVE IN POLAND RESUMED

Attacks on Ossowetz Renewed
Through Bombardment
and Blazing Rafts.

WRECK ISLAND CITY

Explosion From Unknown
Cause Destroys Part of Ler-
wick, Shetland Islands.

By United Press

PETROGRAD, April 13.—The Germans resumed the bombardment of Ossowetz as part of a new offensive movement on Poland from Suwalki southward to the Vistula, according to an official statement.

Incendiary bombs are being used to supplement the attacks by airmen and artillery on Ossowetz by the besieging Germans. Four blazing rafts were sunk by the guns of the fortress today. The burning rafts threatened the entire city.

By United Press

LONDON, April 13.—The cabinet met today for a final discussion of the liquor question. It is expected that the final result will be the promulgation of a restrictive liquor program. Premier Asquith brought the final message of the king on the question.

Severe fighting on the coast of Flanders has been resumed, with the Belgians attempting to recapture Drei Grachten by hand-to-hand conflicts on the streets of the city and the towns to the southwest.

A severe explosion today wrecked a part of Lerwick, capital of the Shetland Islands, according to dispatches from Aberdeen. The cause is unknown. It is feared that many have perished. Lerwick is a fishing city of 5,000.

DR. RAVENEL TO CHARLESTON

Will Talk Preventive Medicine to
Business Men's League Here.

After Dr. M. P. Ravenel has given his talk on Preventive Medicine before the Business Men's League tomorrow, he will leave for Charleston where he will speak before the Culture Club. The subject of his address is the "Duty of the Public Toward Preventive Medicine."

On his way home, Dr. Ravenel will stop Friday at Cape Girardeau to inspect the waterworks.

DEMOCRATS HONOR JEFFERSON TONIGHT

Senator Stone Will Defend
Wilson's Policies—Decker
and Jacobs Will Speak.

AN ANNUAL AFFAIR

Plan to Celebrate Birthday of
"Father of Democracy"
Every Year.

By United Press

The first Jefferson Day Banquet given by the young Democrats of Boone County will be held in the Virginia Tea Room this evening at 6 o'clock. The idea of commemorating the birthday of the "Father of Democracy" has met with so much success that the committee has decided to make Jefferson Day an annual event. It intends to make Columbia famous for its gathering of "real Democrats."

At noon today, 250 tickets to the banquet had been sold and arrangements made for 300 guests. The out-of-town guests and speakers arrived this afternoon.

Senator W. J. Stone has changed the subject of his speech to "The Issues of the Day—Wilson's Administration," a defense of the President's policies. Congressman Pearl Decker of Joplin has chosen "Vigilance, the Price of Liberty" as his subject. Floyd Jacobs, prosecuting attorney of Jackson County, will speak on "Missouri Democratic in 1916."

"Democracy's Pledges Fulfilled" is the subject chosen by G. A. Mahan of Hannibal. Irvin Barth of St. Louis will talk on "Jeffersonian Principles Today."

BASEBALL GAME FOR VISITORS

Out of Town Journalists to Be Guests
of Athletic Department May 6.

A baseball game in addition to those on the regular schedule has been arranged by C. L. Brewer, director of athletics, for the entertainment of Journalism Week visitors. The game will be Thursday afternoon, May 6, between Missouri and Central College.

All visitors from out of town will be admitted free as guests of the athletic department. The game will begin at 4:15 o'clock, and the program of the afternoon will be so arranged that visitors may see the contest without missing any speeches of general interest.

THE WEATHER

For Columbia and vicinity: Generally fair tonight becoming unsettled Wednesday; warmer.

For Missouri: Fair tonight and Wednesday except probably unsettled north portion; rising temperature.

Weather Conditions.

A well formed high pressure wave persists over the eastern half of the country, consequently mostly fair weather prevails east of the Rocky Mountains. In the Rocky Mountain region unsettled and showery conditions have set in, which are drifting slowly eastward.

Temperatures are somewhat below the seasonal normal from the Great Plains eastward; in the Ohio and Lake region they are near the frost value.

The general arrangement of atmospheric pressure is such as to indicate that mostly fair and warmer weather will prevail at Columbia during the next 36 hours, becoming unsettled during the latter half.

Local Data.

The highest temperature in Columbia yesterday was 58 and the lowest last night was 41; precipitation .00. A year ago yesterday the highest was 55 and the lowest 7; precipitation .00 inch.

The Almanac.

Sun rises today, 5:35 a. m. Sun sets, 6:44 p. m. Moon rises at 4:57 a. m.

THE CALENDAR

April 13.—The Women's Athletic Association meets in the women's gymnasium at 7:15 o'clock.

April 14.—Freshman-sophomore debate at 8 o'clock.

April 15.—University Assembly at 4 o'clock; address by Raymond Robins of Chicago.

April 15.—Mme. Schumann-Heink concert in University Auditorium. Phil Mu Alpha series.

April 16.—Debate, Missouri vs. Texas, University Auditorium, 8:30 p. m.

April 16.—Debate with University of Texas Team at 8:30 o'clock.

April 17.—Virgil's Aeneid, to be given by Senior Latin Class of Columbia High School in Christian College Auditorium.

April 19.—Founders Day.

April 21.—Debate with University of Kansas team at 8 o'clock.

April 22.—Address at University assembly at 7:30 o'clock by William Isaac Hull, lecturer of the Carnegie Institute for international peace.

April 23.—Debate with the University of Kansas Debating Team in the University Auditorium at 8 o'clock.

TWAS A GOOD FIGHT.

William R. Nelson, editor and owner of the Kansas City Star, is no longer in the ranks of the fighters. After thirty-five years others must carry on the constructive work he loved so well.

Newspaper men from the East and from the West have sought the reason for the power, influence and unprecedented success of the Star. They have even gone to reporters and former members of the staff with their questions. Always the answer has been: "William R. Nelson."

What, then, was there about this man, Nelson? The public rarely saw him—in fact, the only address he ever made was over the long distance telephone to Columbia—yet that public believed in him. He always actively directed his great paper. Even when he made journeys to places far distant there would be many exchanges of long telegrams and cablegrams of directions. Sometimes Mr. Nelson would tell the staff to do this, sometimes he would yield to a suggestion from the staff—but always there was the hand of Mr. Nelson throughout the paper.

Something of the same democracy pervaded the Star office where he was best known. He sat at a flat-topped desk in the room with reporters and editors. He would talk with one reporter about his story or pass a joke with another. He wanted to be with his workers and that personality which the staff came to know by this daily contact more than anything else helped to make the paper great.

His newspaper always was his chief interest. He had started out with the idea that the public wanted the news and wanted it attractively written and he never spared expense to get such news. But there was something more and that something was service to the community. There may have been times probably when Mr. Nelson was wrong—it is hard to say even that in looking back over the years—but there never has been a doubt of his sincerity or of the cleanness of his campaigns.

And he never let up. In all the columns and columns that have been written in eulogy of him, there has been no word used so much as, "a fighter." And 'twas a good fight. Too many men come to a time when there is a hardening of their progressive ideas, but Mr. Nelson was just as much awake to the interests of a changing people at 74 years of age as at the start.

Mr. Nelson's life was a triumph of clean journalism. Kansas City, Missouri, Kansas, the Southwest and the nation are the poorer by his loss, but he left all better than he found them, and the forces he started will go on toward making better homes and better communities everywhere.

Y. M. C. A. ORGANIZER AIDS IN CELEBRATION

Dr. H. N. Chapman Tells of
Early Struggles of Local
Association.

SIXTY MEMBERS THEN

First Year Gave a Mere Existence, Fighting Many
Obstacles, He Says.

Y. M. C. A. Anniversary Program.

Tonight: Anniversary Dinner at 6 o'clock in Auditorium of Y. M. C. A. Building.

Thursday: University Assembly, address by Raymond Robins, Chicago social worker. 12 o'clock, Luncheon of Anniversary Committee with Raymond Robins and other guests. 6:45 p. m., address to University men in Auditorium by Raymond Robins.

Friday: 12 o'clock, Luncheon of Anniversary Committee. 4 p. m., address to University women in Auditorium by Raymond Robins. 7 p. m., address to University men by Raymond Robins.

Dr. H. N. Chapman of St. Louis, first president of the Y. M. C. A. at the University of Missouri, came to Columbia this morning to take part in the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the organization at the University.

It was practically through Doctor Chapman's efforts that the Y. M. C. A. was organized at the University in 1890. Doctor Chapman said that he once was a member of the Board of Health of St. Louis but never a member of the House of Delegates, as has been reported.

Doctor Chapman told this morning of the organization and first year's work of the Y. M. C. A. at Missouri.

"I had been interested in the Y. M. C. A. work in St. Louis before I came to the University in 1889," he said. "Most of my education was obtained in England and I attended the Missouri State University, as it was then called, only one year to gather up the scattered ends of my education preparatory to my study of medicine."

Sixty in First Organization.

"About sixty students were interested in the work and became members of the first Y. M. C. A., which was organized early in 1890. Meetings were held Sunday afternoons at 3 o'clock, first in the main building of the University and later in the old Chemistry Building, now Switzer Hall, because in those days the main building was not heated on Sundays and the Chemistry Building was the only one in which there was a stove."

"Prof. Paul Schweitzer was one of the first enthusiastic Y. M. C. A. workers in the school. He used to build the fire in the building each Sunday afternoon and ring the bell to call the students to the meetings."

"We had much opposition to our work in that first year. Fraternities were not what they are today, and their opposition and that of the student body in general was a great hindrance to our work. The first year was merely an existence for the organization, but the second year proved its worth. It is certainly a pleasure to me to be able to visit Columbia now and see the wonderful work that is being carried on."

Teaches Bible Classes.

Doctor Chapman is not active in Y. M. C. A. work now. He is a member of the St. Philip's Episcopal Church of St. Louis and teaches a Sunday school class of forty young men, and a women's Bible class on Thursday afternoon.

About two hundred persons will attend the anniversary dinner of the Y. M. C. A. in the auditorium of the Y. M. C. A. Building at 6 o'clock tonight.

Raymond Robins comes to Columbia Thursday. He is now conducting a religious campaign at the University of Indiana. He will speak at the University Assembly Thursday and will have luncheon with the anniversary committee of the Y. M. C. A. at 12 o'clock.

300 DROWN IN JAPANESE MINE

Under-Sea Gallery in Rich Coal Field
Is Flooded After Collapse.

By United Press
TOKIO, April 13.—Three hundred men are reported drowned in the collapse of an under-sea gallery of a coal mine in the Shimonoseki district. The mine is in the extreme southeastern point of Honshu Island, on the strait separating Honshu from Kishu. In one of the richest coal fields of the Orient.